

REMARKS

Initially, it is noted that this Preliminary Amendment is in the newly approved revised format of amendments, such that a complete listing of claims is included and each section begins on a separate page of this paper.

More particularly, Claims 1-3 have been cancelled by the foregoing amendments. Claims 4, 5 and 6 have been amended by the foregoing amendments. Accordingly, Claims 4, 5 and 6 remain pending in the present divisional patent application.

It is noted that Claims 1-3 have been cancelled because they are directed to an invention elected for prosecution in the parent application (i.e., U.S. Application No. 10/117,944, recently allowed).

In addition, Claim 4 has been amended to be in independent form due to the aforementioned cancellation of Claim 1 from which it originally depended. Claims 5 and 6 have been amended to correct typographical errors in these claims relating to the lower limit of the numeric range possible for subscript c (i.e., the range for subscript c should be from 0.01 to 1.0). The recitations of amended Claims 4, 5 and 6 are believed to be supported by the present specification (see paragraphs [0024], [0034] and [0043]). In the foregoing circumstances, it is believed that no new matter has been introduced into the present application by the foregoing amendments.

It is further noted that, by the foregoing amendments, the specification of the present divisional application has been amended to include the required cross-reference to related applications, whereby the present application claims priority benefit from the non-provisional parent application under 35 U.S.C. § 120, as well as of the

earlier provisional application relied upon by the parent applications under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Accordingly, early and favorable action on the present application is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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